

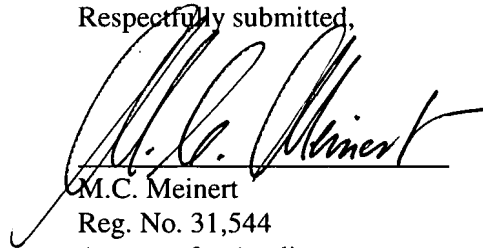
Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments.

**CONCLUSION**

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would assist in clarifying any remaining issues, or to otherwise expedite prosecution, Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

If any additional fee is due with regard to this paper, Applicants hereby authorize payment of such fee from Deposit Account No. 07-1060.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.C. Meinert', is written over a horizontal line.

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GI 5238-DIV  
CLAIMS FILED

**WHAT IS CLAIMED:**

1. A method of treating an inflammatory disorder, comprising administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of IL-11.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said disorder is a member selected from the group consisting of AIDS, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, antibiotic induced diarrheal diseases (*Clostridium difficile*), multiple sclerosis, osteoporosis, gingivitis, peptic ulcer disease, esophagitis, diabetes, retinitis, uveitis, reperfusion injury after myocardial infarction (MI), reperfusion injury after cerebral vascular accident (CVA), aphthous ulcers (oral), atherosclerosis (plaque rupture), tumor metastases, asthma, preeclampsia, rhinitis, conjunctivitis, and urticaria.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is arthritis.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is osteoarthritis.

7. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is antibiotic induced diarrheal diseases (*Clostridium difficile*).

8. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is multiple sclerosis.

9. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is osteoporosis.

10. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is gingivitis.

11. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is peptic ulcer disease.

12. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is esophagitis.

13. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is diabetes.

14. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is retinitis.

15. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is uveitis.

16. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is reperfusion injury after myocardial infarction (MI).

17. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is reperfusion injury after cerebral vascular accident (CVA).

18. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is aphthous ulcers (oral).

19. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is atherosclerosis (plaque rupture).

20. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is tumor metastases.

21. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is asthma.

22. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is preeclampsia.

23. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is allergic diseases.

24. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is rhinitis.

25. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is conjunctivitis.

26. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is urticaria.

27. The method of claim 2 wherein the amount of IL-11 is between 1 and 100µg/kg body weight.